



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT, AND CITY SERVICES  
Ms Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Mr Mark Parton MLA

## Submission Cover Sheet

### Inquiry into EV Vehicle Adoption in the ACT

**Submission Number: 16**

**Date Authorised for Publication: 24 June 2022**

**From:** [Charles Vesely](#)  
**To:** [LA Committee - PTCS](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to the Inquiry into EV Vehicle Adoption in the ACT  
**Date:** Saturday, 4 June 2022 12:36:06 PM

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Honourable Committee Members,

## Introduction

I am relatively new to the ACT, as I posted here in the beginning of 2021 from Queensland. I drove my 2019 Hyundai Kona from Brisbane along what is known as the “Electric Super Highway” which covered at that time the route from Melbourne to Cairns. This route has been since further extended. As you may be aware, the basic principle is that approximately every 160km there is a fast or ultra charging station.

My personal circumstances are that I live in both the ACT and Qld. I own a second Hyundai One (2021) which I keep in Brisbane for when I am 'home' there. As I have now been driving EVs for two and half years in a variety of driving circumstances, (local and distant) I believe that I have a reasonable insight into EV operation and travel. I have the limit here at my ACT residence for EV operation, in that I live in an apartment building which has no means of charging even with a 10 Amp standard power socket in the parking area underneath the building. I am as other EV users are, therefore reliant on publicly accessible charging stations to charge my EV.

## View of the ACT

I, and many, applauded the government incentives by the ACT Government to encourage the take up of EVs in lieu of ICE driven vehicles. I note from an ABC Canberra Radio interview that there are now over 1500 EVs registered in the ACT. This will only improve as the at times the rather ill-informed dialogue settles down, and potential new car purchasers will undertake the sensible and factual research into EVs, finding that they align well with most private and household transport needs.

The key issue that I and other EV owners in the ACT are experiencing, is the very limited public charging infrastructure in the ACT. When I arrived in the ACT 18 months ago, as you would be aware, the ActewAGL charging station network was rather tired, and in a number locations unserviceable. Since the new provider “EVIE” has taken over the management of the former ActewAGL public charging stations, there has been some improvement in the reliability and delivery of service. However, there is one large area of concern to wit the lack of fast (50Kw or >) stations. The two 50Kw (Law Courts Carpark, Civic and Vibe Hotel at CBR Airport) stations are now being shared by an ever increasing clientele. This demand is even further increased specially when one considers the EV visitors to Canberra on weekends etc. There is a significant need for additional 50 Kw public charging stations in the ACT to meet the increasing demand.

There are a number of progressive businesses in the ACT such as the Canberra Centre and Ikea who provide free charging at 7.5Kw for EVs. Thus allowing EV drivers the great convenience to 'top up'. Whilst they shop. I also acknowledge that there are a few other 7.5Kw stations in some proximity to other shopping or dining venues. If the ACT Government is truly serious about the EV issue then there may need to be consideration of the establishment of more charging stations of at least 7.5Kw in carparks near key venues like those in the parliamentary triangle, or parklands near the Carillon. Charging stations at such locations would offer charging to the EV visitors/tourists to those attractions.

### **Final Comments**

The ACT has a great opportunity in leading in the uptake of EVs, however, the consumer purchase is but one aspect, the building up of charging infrastructure must be the leading edge of the transformation from ICEVs to EVs. I appreciate the time that you honourable committee members have taken in reading my submission. I am also happy to answer any follow up questions which you may wish to ask of me on this issue.

Kind regards,

Charles Vesely

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Acknowledging the Ngunnawal People (Canberra Area) and Jaggera People (Brisbane Area), recognising their continuing connection to traditional lands and waters and paying respects to their Elders both past, present and emerging.  
Acknowledging the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have

contributed to the defence of Australia in times of peace and war.

